WO 2005/083976 PCT/IB2005/050498

13

## CLAIMS:

10

15

20

1. A system (100) for distributing a content (101), the system comprising:

- a receiver (102) for receiving the content (101), the receiver comprising:
- a selector (104) for selecting a distributor (103) of the content (101) out of a plurality of distributors;
- content-requesting means (105) for requesting the content (101) from the distributor (103) selected;
  - receiving means (106) for receiving the content (101);
  - identity-determining means (107) for determining an identity (108) associated with the content (101); and
  - a verifier (109) for verifying an availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103) based on the identity (108) determined,
    - the distributor (103) of the content (101), comprising:
    - content request-receiving means (110) for receiving a request for the content (101); and
    - a dispatcher (111) for dispatching the content (101), wherein the distributor (103) is arranged to dispatch the content (101) to the receiver (102) in response to receiving a request for the content (101) from the receiver (102), and wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to only select the distributor (103) if the verifier (109) verified the availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103).
    - 2. A system (100) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the receiver (102) comprises identity-receiving means (112) and wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to determine an identity (108) by receiving the identity (108) from one out of the plurality of distributors.
- 25 3. A system (100) as claimed in claim 2, wherein the receiver (102) comprises identity-requesting means (113), wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to receive the identity (108) after requesting the identity (108) of the content (101) from the distributor (103), wherein the distributor (103) comprises:
  - identity request-receiving means (114) for receiving a request for the identity

WO 2005/083976

5

10

15

20

30

(108) of the content (101);

- an identity dispatcher (115) for dispatching the identity (108), and wherein the distributor (103) is arranged to dispatch the identity (108) to the receiver (102) in response to receiving a request for the identity (108) of the content (101) from the receiver (102).
- 4. A system (100) as claimed in claim 2, wherein the system (100) comprises a further distributor (116), wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to receive a further identity (124) from the further distributor (116), wherein the verifier (109) comprises a comparator (118) for comparing the identity (108) associated with the content (101) with the further identity (124) received, wherein the verifier (109) is arranged to verify the availability of the content (101) at the further distributor (116) if the identity (108) equals the further identity (124), and wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to only select the further distributor (116) if the verifier (109) verified the availability of the content (101) at the further distributor (116).
- 5. A system (100) as claimed in claim 4, wherein the receiver (102) comprises quality-determining means (119) for determining a quality of receiving the content (101) of the distributor (103), and wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to select the further distributor (116) in dependence upon the quality determined.
- 6. A system (100) as claimed in claim 2, wherein the receiver (102) comprises identity-deriving means (121), and wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to derive the identity (108) from content (101) received from one out of the plurality of distributors.
- 7. A system (100) as claimed in claim 2, wherein the system (100) comprises a further distributor (116), wherein the further distributor (116) comprises:
  - verification request-receiving means (122) for receiving a verification request (123) for verifying availability at the further distributor (116) of content (101) associated with a further identity (124), the further identity (124) being part of the verification request (123); and
  - a verification result dispatcher (125) for dispatching a verification result (126), wherein the further distributor (116) is arranged to, in response to receiving the verification request (123) from the receiver (102), the further distributor (116) is arranged to verify availability at the further distributor (116) of content (101) associated with the further

WO 2005/083976

PCT/IB2005/050498

identity (124) and to dispatch the verification result (126) to the receiver (102), and wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to only select the further distributor (116) after dispatching a verification request (123) to the further distributor (116) and receiving a verification result (126) that verifies the availability of the content (101) at the further distributor (116).

5

15

30

- 8. A receiver (102) for receiving a content (101), comprising:
- a selector (104) for selecting a distributor (103) of the content (101) out of a plurality of distributors;
- content-requesting means (105) for requesting the content (101) from the distributor (103) selected;
  - receiving means (106) for receiving the content (101);
  - identity-determining means (107) for determining an identity (108) associated with the content (101); and
  - a verifier (109) for verifying an availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103) based on the identity (108) determined, and wherein the receiver (102) is arranged to only select the distributor (103) if the verifier (109) verified the availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103).
    - 9. A method of distributing a content (101), comprising the steps of:
- 20 selecting a distributor (103) of the content (101) out of a plurality of distributors,
  - requesting the content (101) from the distributor (103) selected,
  - dispatching the content (101) to the receiver (102) in response to receiving the request for the content (101) from the receiver (102),
- 25 receiving the content (101) at the receiver (102),
  - determining an identity (108) associated with the content (101), and
  - verifying an availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103) based on the identity (108) determined,
  - and wherein, in the step of selecting, the distributor (103) is only selected if the verifier (109) verified the availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103).
    - 10. A computer program product enabling a receiver (102) that is part of a system (100) for distributing a content (101) to select a distributor (103) of the content (101) out of a plurality of distributors, to request and receive the content (101) from the distributor (103)

WO 2005/083976 PCT/IB2005/050498

16

selected, to determine an identity (108) associated with the content (101), to verify an availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103) based on the identity (108) determined, and to only select the distributor (103) after verifying the availability of the content (101) at the distributor (103).